

 **the**
FELLOWTARIAN

Newsletter of the Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester

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SUNDAY SERVICES

February, 2007

February 4

THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

Guest Preacher:
Rev. Duane Fickeisen

It's pursuit is asserted to be inalienable, but how can you seek happiness effectively? In today's sermon we'll take a look at recent research findings and offer some suggestions for finding lasting happiness. Our Guest Preacher this Sunday is Rev. Duane Fickeisen, co-minister of the Unitarian Universalists of the Cumberland Valley in Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania.

February 11

**IF YOU MEET
THE BUDDHA ON THE ROAD...**

Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill

One ninth-century Zen Master went so far as to command his disciples, "If you meet the Buddha on the road, kill him!" to emphasize the importance of maintaining independence from authority figures. Scholar Karen Armstrong says that, "Gotama might not have approved of the violence of this statement, but throughout his life he fought against the cult of personality, and endlessly deflected the attention of his followers from himself. It was not his life and personality but his teaching that was important. He believed that he had woken up to a truth — a dharma - that was inscribed in the deepest structure of existence." Rev. O'Neill's sermon today provides an introduction to Buddhism and why many Unitarian Universalists find Buddhist study and practice consistent with our principles. Come join us!

February 18

**WHERE DO THE MERMAIDS STAND?
A SERMON ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN**

Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill

What constitutes an adequate religious education for children today? What should our program for children in a Unitarian Universalist congregation strive to offer? Dr. O'Neill considers the content and quality of our unique approach and the responsibility we all share as an intergenerational community. This sermon is not just for parents! It goes to the heart of what our church must promote and provide as a priority in a society where so many children are lost or at risk. What a great Sunday to invite young parents you know to visit our church!

February 25

SPIRITUAL PATHS

UFWC Members

This service is held each year to give us a chance to hear of the spiritual wanderings of some of our own. Few of us started our lives in Unitarian Universalism, and each of us has a different calling to this place. We have so many perspectives on what is spiritually meaningful—that is what makes UFWC special. This Sunday we will hear three perspectives.

Services and Babysitting at 9 AM and 11 AM. Religious Education at 9 AM only.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

What's in a name? An awful lot, when you think about it.

A name – be it assigned to a person or institution – carries with it a history. That history begins with various identifying characteristics assigned at birth. It continues through the many experiences, from minor to life-altering, that modify the initial identifying characteristics as the person or institution grows and evolves.

Sometimes, the changes or understandings of oneself that result are so dramatic that the old name no longer fits. It becomes necessary to take on a new name.

Anyone who attended the January 14 service on transgender issues heard an extremely moving story of one person's personal journey and the name change that resulted. The service moved me and many others in attendance to tears. In many respects, I regarded the service and our loving, supportive reaction to the members involved as our Fellowship's finest hour.

But my column is not about the January 14 service. It is simply a coincidence that this intensely moving service came on the heels of issues concerning our identity that were discussed at a mid-year "state of the Fellowship" goal-setting workshop for the board on January 13. Put in simple terms, the discussion asked the question: Does the name "Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester" really describe the congregation we have become? Does the name convey to the outside public exactly who we are and what we are about? Does it fit with our emerging "identity?" I cannot answer that ques-

tion – it's up to all of us, the collective "we," to find the answer. What I can do is provide some background and history.

When our Fellowship was founded in 1954, the Unitarians had not yet merged with the Universalist Church of America to form the Unitarian Universalist Association. That merger occurred in 1961. Thus, we were chartered as a member of

the American Unitarian Association (AUA) – and the single moniker, "Unitarian," made sense.

Does the name "Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester" really describe the congregation we have become?

The word "Fellowship" had a very definite meaning within the AUA at that time. It referred to small, lay-led congregations, frequently founded in areas whose relatively small populations could not support a full-size church. There were many such congregations founded in the 1950s in what was known as the Fellowship Movement. Their lay-led services tended to be less structured than a formal church. The focus was less on the spiritual and more on the intellectual and philosophical.

Many of the fellowships founded in the 1950s continued

Continued page 4...



PONDERINGS: THE MINISTER'S COLUMN

Last Sunday's service, where one of our members took the courageous step of asking for our communal support as he moves through the step-by-step process of transgender change, was one of the proudest and most moving moments I have ever experienced as a minister. When the congregation rose to its feet as one to applaud Scott's amazing honesty, integrity, and personal courage, I felt that I was privileged to witness the profound meaning of the Beloved Community in action.

I knew that Scott and Kate had already received the unfailing support of their inner circle of closest friends and family, and that was itself a marvelous thing to see. But oh, you congregation! The spirit of love was among you this week, and it was palpable. I dare predict you will have other days and other occasions in the future when you do our Unitarian Universalist tradition proud, but this was surely one of your finest hours.

No lengthy minister's column this month expounding on the meaning of our faith, or the challenges of moving our little congregation forward in good fashion and in best practices. This week my only inclination is to salute you for being a congregation worthy of the name, worthy of having members like Scott and Kate, and for your splendid honoring of their unique journey in faith. You received from them the rare gift of radical openness this week as they stood before you and revealed their hearts and souls. And your response wrapped these two wonderful people in unconditional love and acceptance. It was a moment this minister will never forget.

....po'n (Rev. Patrick O'Neill)

REmarks -- RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

"This is an exciting time for our Fellowship."

Do these words sound familiar? We hear them every Sunday morning as part of the welcome. I find them energizing and heartening, because they're true. And the excitement is not just among our adult members. There is wonderful excitement in our religious education classes, and in our group social action and worship activities.

Our focus on just one RE program, at 9:00, has brought renewed energy. Even shy children seem to be happier in a larger group. Having classes at 9:00 also means that teachers can enjoy the 11:00 service, and sometimes their older children attend the service with them.

Since September, we have welcomed visitors almost every Sunday. Many of them are now regulars in class, and this brings new energy. It is also energizing simply to see our teachers bring the different curricula to life and watch the children grow as a result.

Recently, the Pre-Kindergarten class made dream-catchers. They also painted pictures while talking about what emotions they associate with different colors.

The Kindergarten and first-graders have explored our Fellowship, considered how it is different or the same as other houses of worship, and created their own mini-Fellowship building.

Last week, the 2nd/3rd grade class investigated the microscopic life in pond water and continued their discussion of the beginnings of life and the evolutionary process.

The 4th/5th graders recently explored different aspects of prejudice, and the 6th/7th grade class has played "The Game of

Life." This game gives participants a hint of what it is like to live in our society when you come from a different socio-economic background than most of our families.

In the Our Whole Lives class, the 8th/9th graders continue in their year-long exploration of human sexuality, relationships, and how our UU principles can be expressed in relationships.

I also want to note that there have been several days this year when we have had six or seven

babies and toddlers in the Nursery. That is new and very exciting for our congregation, since in just two or three years we will be welcoming those children into the RE program.

Thanks to all our parents, other adults and teen helpers who devote time to the Religious Education program. The energy is apparent and wonderful to see and feel.

— Pam Baxter
Director of Religious Education



BOARD OF TRUSTEES -- JANUARY 9, 2007

The Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, January 9, with all members present, including Flo Miller (President), Bob Scott (Vice-President), Deanna Koepcke (Secretary), Erach Patel (Executive Treasurer), Jack Butler, Fatima Patel, Cheryl Pittenger, and Craig Talbot, in addition to Rev. Patrick O'Neill and Pam Baxter (Director of Religious Education).

Erach Patel reported that the Christmas Eve collection was designated for the Unitarian-Universalist Service Committee, which was sent a check for \$1125.

Erach also noted that the IRS now requires documentation in order for cash contributions to be itemized on one's tax return; it was decided to provide envelopes to congregants wishing to donate cash so that receipts may be issued.

The Board established by motion an ad hoc committee to facilitate the hiring of additional administrative help to provide membership and volunteer support; this position, funded by the Chalice Lighters grant, is targeted to be filled by March. The same grant will help pay for an office computer and the assistive listening devices to be purchased for Sunday services.

In addition, a discussion ensued regarding past memorial gifts to the Fellowship; Erach Patel offered to go over policy regarding these gifts to identify any changes that may be called for. Further, regarding policy, Fatima Patel will look at Fellowship building rental guidelines and report back. Rev. Patrick O'Neill suggested the Board establish a building use committee sometime in the future.

The Board agreed to rent the Fellowship building to the Assembly of the Sacred Wheel for the day on Saturday, April 21.

Board members look forward to feedback, questions, and comments from the congregation.

CELEBRATE! ANNUAL CELEBRATION DINNER

As our church calendar wheel spins again, it comes up lucky number 17. That's as in March 17, as in the luck of the Irish St Patrick's Day. This is the date for our annual gathering of members and friends to celebrate an eventful year and to prepare for the next starting with our annual canvass to solicit pledges of financial support for our Fellowship. But don't be afraid to come. There will be no fund raising this night; just good food, fun, fellowship with friends, and lots more.

Last year over 130 people turned out for this event and had a wonderful time. This year will be even better as we have grown and have many new members to meet and greet. So save the date, and look for your invitation in the mail. We've got a chair with your name on it, and you'll be sorry if you're not in it.

— Your Canvass
Committee Co-chairs
Gerry Giess and Mike Miller

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday groups are now meeting through June. There are also interested people who could meet on Sunday after service, Monday night or a weekday. If you are interested in one of these times or to get more information, contact Gerry Giess, email: SGM.

HOLIDAY PARTIES, THANK YOU, HOSTS!

The Fun & Fellowship Committee wants to thank the hosts of the 2006-2007 holiday parties — David and Barbara Long, Kathy McGinnis and Bob Radcliffe, Kate Shaw and family, and the Vogt family. These folks generously opened their homes to the Fellowship. The parties were all great! If you were a guest at any of these parties, consider being a host next year. A big thank you to Tom Buglio who provided equipment for and led the karaoke party at the Fellowship.

FROM THE PRESIDENT, cont'd from p. 2

in a lay led capacity for years. Without formal ministerial leadership, they had difficulty growing beyond a certain point. But they were set in their ways, and the decision to call a settled minister became divisive. Some fellowships never got beyond that point and remained lay led or simply dissolved.

West Chester, however, was one of the success stories to come out of the Fellowship Movement. After our own divisive "moments" in the late 1970s and early 1980s, we entered the UUA-funded extension ministry program in 1985. In 1989, we called Kate Rohde as our first fulltime settled minister. As you know, we are now embarked on a journey to call our second settled minister. We also employ a Director of Religious Education and we have a paid administrative assistant, choir director, pianist, and custodian. At the rate we are growing, we may be over 160 members by the time this newsletter arrives in your home.

Are we still a "Fellowship?" And are we "Unitarians," or are we "Unitarian Universalists?" As you consider that question, ask yourself how people in the outside community might define the word "Fellowship." Does the word convey the image of a religious community with formal leadership, a structured service, and a full Religious Education Program? Or does it imply an informal, more loosely defined organization, perhaps of a social nature? Will potential Unitarian Universalists, looking for a church to meet their spiritual needs, automatically discount a "Fellowship?"

Your Board of Trustees believes a discussion around these questions would be timely as we look toward new beginnings with a new minister and a newly structured, program-sized congregation. Take a look at the UUA site on the web for names used by other congregations. Some of them use the word "congregation," others just call themselves "Unitarian Universalists" of their particular locale. Some still retain the word fellowship. Some use the formal word church.

Let members of the board know what you think. Meanwhile, I will be researching the answers to the logistical issues that would arise if we were to change our name.

I stress that this is an issue only the congregation as a whole can decide. The decision is truly in your hands. I ask only that you give it careful, reasoned thought and approach the discussion with the same spirit of caring and support for our religious community that defines all we do.

Yours in faith, Flo Miller

WHY DO WE DO IT?

Volunteers Needed! This means You!

At various committee meetings recently, we've been talking a lot about the need to improve our "leadership development" process to engage more of the congregation in volunteer effort.

I'm sure you can guess the main reasons. We are a growing organization trying to do more things. We need to have more people doing some of those

things. Also we are a long-standing organization, and too many jobs are being picked up by folks who have been doing them for a long time. It's time to turn over some of this to our newer members. Some of our volunteers are happy to continue, but they need some help in order to prevent burnout. And we need some specific talents that the folks on a committee may not have.

It should be clear that there's a place in a volunteer organization like ours for anyone with his/her hand up. (Some have had experiences that argue against this, but I assure everyone it's true!)

So what's the hook? Here's a good one: contributing some of your talents, skill, and time is every bit as needed as a contribution of some of your money. I think this is crucial in an organization such as ours. We don't exist unless there is funding, and we don't exist if there aren't people to run things big and small. I believe that the annual stewardship canvass sessions should and will make something of this opportunity to "pledge" more than just money. Pledge to

yourself and to the Fellowship to increase your involvement outside of Sunday service.

Here's another good one: it's time for some of the old guard to step aside and let new blood come in and run the place. This

has the added benefit of transferring some ownership of our congregation to newer members. It may seem that the old guard would like to protect things as they were, but most of us truly

welcome turning important jobs over to others to insure continuity.

Here's the best one, and the reason I continue to be so involved. It's fulfilling, it's rewarding, it's growth and learning, and it's spending time with some of the best people on the planet. The results are not only tangible and significant, but they benefit us directly, and they benefit us collectively. I have been hearing a lot lately from folks who say how they enjoy and look forward to

It's fulfilling, rewarding, growth and learning, and it's spending time with some of the best people on the planet.

board meetings, how they find the religious education committee to be one of the highlights of their week, how they have had an opportunity to learn leadership skills here that they would have had difficulty getting the chance to do at work, and that they have benefited greatly from it.

This is a plea to the entire congregation to be honest with yourself about whether there's not more you could do to help us keep this miracle in West Chester moving forward. Even a small job such as coming a few minutes early to make coffee once a month is a huge relief to those who have been bearing this load, and if you are at all interested in learning to lead activities, there is not a more nurturing, caring environment to do it in.

Talk to any committee members about their committee — there's room on every one for more help. Or talk to me about your interests, and I can help guide you on getting more involved.

Thanks.

— Bob Scott
Vice-President

CASH DONATIONS

A MESSAGE ABOUT TAXES IN 2007 FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

According to new IRS regulations for 2007, if you itemize and want to deduct charitable cash donations, you will need verification of those donations from the charitable organization. A new procedure has been set up at the Fellowship for recognizing cash donations. Slips of paper will be available that you can use to associate your name with your cash donation. Please watch for further details in the Order of Service.

DENOMINATIONAL DOINGS

Would you like to meet Unitarian Universalists from other congregations, increase your knowledge of our denomination, and gain some valuable leadership skills, all at the same time?

You can do that by attending the annual conference of the Joseph Priestley District (JPD) of the UUA. The JPD includes 65 congregations in southeastern and central Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Washington D.C., and northern Virginia. Every year, the district holds a conference chock-full of workshops on various areas of interest and concern to Unitarian Universalists. There are also opportunities for worship and just plain socializing. Taken together, these activities make for a broadening and enriching experience.

This year's conference will be held at the Harrisburg Hilton from Friday night, April 27 to Sunday morning, April 29. A look at our Fellowship calendar may create some hesitation about attending because the calendar states that candidating week for a potential new minister begins on April 27. Not to worry. I have it on good authority (Search Committee Chair Jim MacFadyen) that candidating week officially begins with the service on April 29. So there's nothing to stop any of us from being at the JPD conference Friday night and/or Saturday for the bulk of the activities.

I do not have full details of the conference yet, but I do know that the theme will be "Spreading the Faith." Saturday's activities will end with an evening banquet at which Rev. Stefan Jonasson, Director for Large Congregations

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Search Committee has been busy these past two months and things are moving along smoothly. We've reviewed Ministerial Records, chosen ministers to exchange packets with, reviewed those packets, conducted phone interviews, and checked references. Whew! We now have our "short list" of three ministers who will each come to spend a "pre-candidating weekend" with us in the coming weeks. These weekends begin when the minister arrives on Friday, with a relaxed dinner with the committee that evening, a tour of the area Saturday morning followed by lunch with the committee and an afternoon of interviewing. On Sunday morning the minister preaches in a "neutral pulpit" observed by the committee followed by lunch, more discussion, then farewells late in the afternoon.

This is the really exciting part! And we just know you have your calendar marked for the Candidating Week, scheduled for April 29 to May 6, when the congregation will have many opportunities to meet our chosen ministerial candidate!

We appreciate how all of you have honored the need for confidentiality in this process and the support you have given. Please continue to keep us in your thoughts as we bring this work to a conclusion over the next few months.

By the way, if you'd like to see the packet about UFWC that we've exchanged with the ministers, there is a copy in the foyer for you to browse. As ever, feel free to contact us with your thoughts and concerns by emailing to search-committee, or by calling or emailing any of the committee members.

— The UFWC Ministerial Search Committee
Jim, Curt, Cyndy, Ed, Eileen, Mark and Sandy



of the UUA, will be Keynote Speaker.

I plan to be at the conference Friday night and Saturday, staying for the banquet if possible. (Attendance at the banquet, as with other portions of the conference, is not required.) We have several denominational "regulars" who attend these events and who I expect will join me. But in recent years, our Fellowship's representation at the JPD conference has grown, with more and more members exploring the opportunity for the first time. It's part of our increasing denominational awareness and participation – a

real sign of health for our congregation.

Whether you're a "first timer" or a "repeater," won't you consider joining me at this spring's conference? I'll have brochures and registration forms for all who are interested as soon as they become available, or you can check out the JPD website at www.jpduua.org for more information.

I hope to see you in Harrisburg in April!

— Flo Miller

THE UUSC CORNER

(A continuation of the reporting of social justice work done by the UU Service Committee)

Juicy Fruit. Altoids. Doublemint. Lifesavers. Countless numbers of these sweets are produced, packaged, and sold all around the world (to the tune of 4 billion dollars).

Wrigley's, the well-known corporation that makes them, recently agreed to develop a new "supplier code of conduct," as well as begin to audit their ingredient and packaging supply chain. These steps were stimulated by a recent shareholder resolution co-filed by UUSC and reflect a corporate advocacy strategy that strengthens human rights by moving companies to new levels of social responsibility.

Wrigley's represents the scale, scope, and production trends of today's multinational corporation. Their sign-on to a supplier code of conduct is an important step forward and reflects a growing trend by large corporations to invest new attention into how raw materials are derived, and how resulting product is produced and delivered. It also demonstrates the kind of impact that consumers and shareholders can have in strengthening human and environmental rights through corporate advocacy.

One of UUSC's partners in this effort is the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility. Jim Gunning, a chief architect of UUSC's shareholder advocacy program and a leader at ICCR says, "This agreement by Wrigley to our demands is a win-win situation, and the full chain of Wrigley suppliers will become more so-

cially accountable in the process." Now that's something to chew on!

P.S. Please remember to bring your Guest at Your Table box to a Sunday service or alternatively join UUSC by filling out a membership envelope and inserting your check (made out to UUSC—fees are on the inside flap of the envelope).

Wrigley's sign-on to a supplier code of conduct is an important step forward.

NEW MEMBER POTLUCK UNPLUGGED

On Sunday, January 28 at 6 p.m., UFWC will honor 14 new members by treating them to one of our famous pot luck dinners in the sanctuary. New members eat free, while everyone else need only bring a dish (or dessert) to share and a thirst for learning more about the new members through our Fun Facts game — a lively activity in which current members try to match a list of facts to new members.

Because of electrical problems in the sanctuary, our dinner needs to be "unplugged" this year. No hot plates or crock pots please! There is a microwave downstairs available for food that may need to be reheated. No need to RSVP. Just save the date!

FOLK SINGING

The next folk singing will be Saturday, February 3, 8 p.m., at the home of Linda and Steve Sander. No experience or talent necessary. Bring a munchie if you wish. Contact Steve, email: folk-singing.

EXPLORING DIVERSITY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP FEBRUARY 18, 7-8:30 PM.

Our new selection for February is the wonderful novel *Dreaming in Cuban* by Cristina Garcia. Published in 1992 this first novel by the Havana born and New York City raised American writer brings to life the personal stories of three generations of the del Pino family. We meet Celia del Pino the family matriarch and loyal Castro supporter who, with one of her daughters Felicia, remains in Cuba and Lourdes, her other daughter, who immigrates to United States and is as strongly anti-Castro as her mother is pro.

Pilar, daughter of Lourdes raised in Brooklyn is caught between both worlds; proud of her Cuban roots and yet deeply involved with the cultural scene of New York City as a punk artist and musician. It is mainly through the eyes of these three that the reader relives the Cuban Revolution from both near and far as well as from January 1959 to the present day. Discussion leader will be Judy Finkel.

Our book for March is the non fiction *Mountains beyond Mountains - The quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a man who would cure the world* by Tracy Kidder.

Please contact either Shelly Case or Ruth MacFadyen or email us at diversity-book-group. All are Welcome

VALENTINE'S DANCE

It's Back and Bigger than Ever! The 2007 Valentine's Dance (featuring Who Needs Nigel?) will be Saturday Evening February 10, 7-10 p.m. in the Sanctuary. It's the fourth year for this event, and it's more fun every year.

Who Needs Nigel? is a classic-rock band. Six UFWC members are ready once again with the old favorites and some new surprises as well. So come and dance. Come and listen. Just come and gawk! You're always in — er — "great fellowship" at the Fellowship! Rock 'n Roll!

Feel free to bring snacks like veggies and dip or crackers, and any beverages you may wish. We will have some snacks and beverages at the dance. BUT — please save all chocolate treats for the Feast of Decadent Chocolate on Sunday February 11.

The price of entry to this dance is a heart open to the possibility of seeing, believing, and caring that a relationship between two people needs to be celebrated, nurtured, and sustained by fun. Attend the dance with someone or come to the dance with your hopes to find someone, but join us for the evening and have fun.



FEAST OF DECADENT CHOCOLATE

On Sunday February 11 the Fun & Fellowship Committee will sponsor our Annual Feast of Decadent Chocolate, one of our favorite Fellowship events. Chocolate lovers will remember this occasion fondly and non-chocolate lovers will remember their amusement at the attraction chocolate holds for some people.

For anyone new to the Fellowship, the Feast is actually just a special potluck chocolate social hour after both of the services that Sunday. Everyone is encouraged to bring their favorite chocolate treat to share. We encourage you to bring a homemade treat but it is your choice. (A list of ingredients is helpful to anyone with special dietary concerns/preferences.)

Since so many of us love to share our passion and recipes for chocolate this is a popular social event as well as one of our culinary classics. If you have a friend whom you have been thinking about introducing to the Fellowship, this is the perfect event to invite them to. We will have invitation cards in the lobby for you to give to a friend (or to use as a reminder for yourself).

Remember the success of the Feast relies of you bringing your favorite chocolate treat on Feb 11. If you aren't ready to indulge your chocolate cravings after the 9 a.m. service, we will have goodie bags so you can take home a sampling. We look forward to seeing you and meeting your friends. Contact Mary Yeager, email: fun, if you have any questions.

LUNCH GROUP

Lunch group will meet on Friday, February 9 at 11:30 a.m. at the Hunan Restaurant located in the Shop Rite shopping center at 1103 West Chester Pike. Newcomers are welcome. E-mail lunch-group to be added to the e-mail reminder list. Please try to respond to the e-mail reminder so we can save space for everyone, but if you change your mind at the last minute, come anyway. Everyone is welcome.

— Linda Sander

START A GREAT NEW HABIT

The Fellowship sells grocery gift cards (for Acme, Giant, ShopRite and Superfresh) after every Sunday service. You pay no extra money to buy these cards, but the Fellowship gets them from the grocery companies at a 5% discount. So, with a \$100 Giant card, you can buy \$100 worth of groceries and the Fellowship makes \$5 at no cost to you. Use the cards just like cash, paying no more for your groceries than if you had used cash or a credit card.

Also, please save your Acme receipts. Acme will give us an additional 1% of their value. If you have any questions, please contact Rob Sartain, email: grocery-program.

Please buy grocery cards after the services and make it a habit!

SIMPLICITY CIRCLE

Our next meeting is on February 4, on the usual first Sunday in the month at 12:30 p.m., after the service. We ask each person to present something meaningful that is relevant to the heart. (Think of Valentine's Day and beyond). This approach, instead of identifying a certain facilitator for that day, turned out to be extremely satisfying last time.

Focus continues to center on our strivings for a life of meaning. We're asking ourselves questions, more and more directly, what do I really want out of life? How do I get there? Answers are varied, individual and personal.

An amazing energy exists in the group, as well as a wide variety of personal paths. Interactions are free as well as considerate and meaningful, which adds up to a thought provoking experience that can last through the month. This is a good group to attend by newcomers, who want to begin developing some relationships in a reflective, personable atmosphere. Any questions or comments contact Heidi Buss, email: simplicity.

COMMUNITY DANCE BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

What is a community dance? It is old-fashion country dancing for all ages and all levels of experience, particularly tailored to the inexperienced. Simple American and English line, square and circle dances will be taught and called. The music is live and up-tempo, with tunes drawn from the Appalachian, Celtic, and other great musical traditions. Bringing a partner is not necessary, in fact, you will be encouraged to change partners frequently, so you get to meet and dance with lots of people.



The dress is comfortable and casual, shoes should be flat and soft-soled. Dress in layers, it gets warm dancing!

Come enjoy this great activity and be part of an exciting, living tradition. Whether you come alone, with a friend or bring your entire family (children and grandparents love it), you'll have an afternoon you won't soon forget. Check out the photos on UFWC's website to see the fun we had last March at our first community dance!

If you can walk, you can dance!

Caller: Ridge Kennedy

Musicians: Bill Quern, Sarah Gowan; Special guest: Alex Vogt

Date and time: Sunday, March 4, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Place: UFWC

Cost: \$5 /adult; \$2 /child 5-12 years old; under 5, free

This event is being brought to you by the Fun & Fellowship and RE Committees. For more information, contact Nancy Artus (email: fun) or Cathy Vogt, (email: RE).

GAME NIGHT

Join us for a Potluck Dinner followed by fun with all kinds of games.

Last month some played Ingenious while others played Rummy 500 and another group played Outburst, and yet another group played Magic the Gathering. As you can see there was quite a variety. Other weeks, we have played Scrabble and various card games.

I can't tell you what we will be playing on Friday, February 2, because it is up to those who come.



Sometimes we try something new, but there are always people wanting to play old favorites too.

Come and join the fun. Bring what you like to play. Don't worry about dinner. If you don't have time to cook, pick up a pizza or cookies on the way. (Everybody loves pizza and chocolate chip cookies).

Don't worry if you are late, we will let you join the game or start a new one. Just come. It is a great way to end the work week (or start the weekend). Bring a dish (for example pizza) and a beverage (for example a 2 liter bottle of soda) to share as well as any game you would like to play. (Don't worry about the game either; if you forget there are plenty here.)

We open the doors at 6:30 p.m. and start games around 7. We are usually done between 8:30 and 9:45, but you can leave whenever you are ready. There is no need to call ahead, but if you have any questions contact Mary Yeager, email: fun.

FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

- Jan 28 Sun Social Justice Committee.** 5 p.m. Email: social-justice
New Member Potluck. 6 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 7.
- Feb 2 Fri Potluck and Game Night.** 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 9.
- Feb 3 Sat Folk Singing.** 8 p.m. at the home of Steve and Linda Sander. See p. 7.
- Feb 4 Sun Simplicity Circle Meeting.** 12:30 p.m. Fireplace Room. See p. 9.
- Feb 5 Mon Finance Committee.** 7:30 p.m. Office. Contact Erach Patel, email: finance
- Feb 7 Wed RE Committee.** 7 p.m. OWL room. Contact Pam Baxter, email: dre.
- Feb 9 Fri Lunch Group.** 11:30 a.m. at Hunan Restaurant in West Goshen. See p. 8.
Chester County Peace Movement Film Night. 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary.
- Feb 10 Sat Valentine's Dance.** 7-10 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 8.
- Feb 11 Sun Feast of Decadent Chocolate.** 12:30 p.m.. See p. 8.
Safe Harbor Dinner. Provided by the Fellowship the second Sunday of the month. Email: safe-harbor.
- Feb 13 Tue Board Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. Fellowship Office. All are welcome.
- Feb 18 Sun Exploring Diversity Book Discussion Group.** 7-8:30 p.m. Fireplace Room. See p. 7.
- Feb 24 Sat Lunch for the Needy.** Provided by our Fellowship at the Salvation Army. Email: salvation-army.
- Feb 25 Sun Social Justice Committee.** 7 p.m. Fireplace Room. Email: social-justice.
- Feb 27 Tue Building Committee Meeting.** 7 p.m. Fireplace Room. Contact Bob Radcliff, email: building.
- Feb 28 Wed Council Meeting.** Large RE room. Contact Bob Scott, email: vice-president.
- Mar 2 Fri Potluck and Game Night.** 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary.
- Mar 4 Sun Simplicity Circle Meeting.** 12:30 p.m. Fireplace Room.
Community Dance. 2-4 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 9.
- Mar 17 Sat Annual Celebration Dinner.** See p. 4.

Groups meeting multiple times in a month:

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|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Choir Practice | First, second, and third Thursdays of the month, 7:30-9 p.m. sanctuary. Email: choir. |
| Small Group Ministry | Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday groups each meet twice a month. Other groups may start. See p. 4. |
| Youth Group | Most Sunday mornings. 10:45 a.m. OWL/Youth Group rm. |
| Yoga Classes | Thursdays 6:15-7:15 p.m. in the basement. |

PIANO CONCERT IN MARCH

There is a benefit concert planned for March 31 featuring Erin Behler, Don Bristol and Matthew Young. The music committee could use some help with planning and refreshments. Contact Elaine Friedlander (email: music) to offer help. More details about the concert will be in future issues of the *Fellowtarian*.